

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

By this amendment, claims 2, 11, and 20 are amended. Applicants believe that these changes present no new matter. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,304,648 to Chang (“Chang”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0081751 to Berstis (“Berstis”). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 recite features involving the display of information. For example, claim 1, as amended, recites “displaying a respective user-appreciable identification of the source and a respective user-appreciable indication of the amplitude of the audio information.”

Regarding this feature, the Examiner (at page 2 of the Office Action) points to Figure 3B of Chang, and to paragraph [0056] of Berstis. However, these portions of Chang and Berstis fail to teach or suggest displaying a user-appreciable indication of the amplitude of the audio information.

Chang at Fig. 3B merely involves a silence suppression feature. It does not involve an indication of the amplitude, as recited in the independent claims.

Paragraph [0056] of Berstis involves an amplitude display program. More particularly, this paragraph (and its accompanying Figure 13) involve the identification of a speaker (“speaker M”) based on the determination of a maximum amplitude. Based on this determination, a block 1328 of Figure 13 shows the transmission of speaker M information to conference call participants. Paragraph [0056] of Berstis does not provide any details regarding the nature of this information. However, Figures. 8, 9A, and 9B of Berstis show displays that do not provide a user-appreciable indication of the amplitude of the audio information, as recited in the independent claims.

Thus, Chang and Berstis fail to teach or suggest teach or suggest displaying a user-appreciable indication of the amplitude of the audio information, as recited in the independent claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that all the stated grounds of rejection and objection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the office action. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to deposit account 50-4238.

Respectfully submitted,

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